

On July 1, 1973, U.S. Army Forces Command was formed as part of a Department of the Army initiative to reorganize its major headquarters and establish a professional, volunteer force.

U.S. Army Forces Command is the Army's largest major command. It trains, mobilizes, and deploys ready land forces in support of operations worldwide. U.S. Army Forces Command units have been integral in fighting the global war on terrorism abroad as well as in defense of our homeland. These soldiers are deployed for our Nation in the Balkans, Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Sinai, Central and South America, and throughout the continental United States.

Having conducted the largest mobilization of Army Reserve and National Guard forces since the Korean war in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom, U.S. Army Forces Command units have demonstrated the strong and seamless partnership that exists between the active and reserve components.

Wherever U.S. Army Forces Command's soldiers and units deploy, they accomplish their mission with exemplary professionalism. U.S. Army Forces Command's soldiers across the globe are advancing the proud record of success achieved by earlier generations of American fighting men and women.

I am extremely proud to have U.S. Army Forces Command headquartered in my State. I take this opportunity to commend them and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring their 30th anniversary and offer best wishes for many more years of proud service to our Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MS. SELENA FLOR- ENCE'S CLASS AT ADAMSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a group of students in my home State of Alabama. In July, students from Adamsville Elementary in Adamsville, AL, traveled to San Francisco to present a portfolio at the seventh annual We the People: Project Citizen National Showcase. Middle school classes from 43 States submitted portfolios on issues ranging from drugs in schools to recycling. In each portfolio, students identified a problem, evaluated alternative solutions, proposed a class policy, and developed an action plan to implement their proposed policy. Portfolios were evaluated by State legislators, legislative staff, and educators from across the country. Scoring criteria for the portfolios included persuasiveness, practicality, coordination, and reflection. Portfolios were evaluated based on four levels of achievement: superior, exceptional, outstanding, and honorable mention.

The title of the Adamsville Elementary Project Citizen portfolio was

"Making a Difference in Blackwell Park." The class chose to focus on Blackwell Park, a city park a few blocks from the school. The park is in bad shape and has deteriorated over the years. While there are funds in the city budget for the park, they have often been diverted to other park complexes. The class proposed a policy that would divide all the money in the city budget equally among the city's parks. I am proud to say that the Adamsville students placed in the Exceptional Achievement Level.

I would like to pay special tribute to the teacher of the class, Selena Florence. The students of the Adamsville Elementary Project Citizen class are: J.D. Barnes, Zaier Brigman, Zach Burford, Brittany Chandler, Dakota DeLuca, Sheldon Dumas, Demetrius Eutsey, Jessica Garrett, Tiffany Hayes, Josh Hughes, Braylen Jones, Chris Jones, Joshua Langford, Lauren Leblanc, Shelby Manning, Amanda McDuff, Justin Motley, Shalani Offord, Nicole Sanders, Austin Shadix, Brandon Shipp, Rayna Warren, and Chatney Williams.

The achievements of these students are proof that the civic education initiative we approved in this chamber is paying dividends. Project Citizen, which is part of the civic education initiative of the No Child Left Behind legislation, is giving students the lifelong skills they need to be effective, engaged, and informed citizens. I commend the Center for Civic Education and the National Conference of State Legislatures for their leadership in sponsoring this excellent service learning-type program. I also would like to commend Wade Black, the state coordinator from the Alabama Center for Law & Civic Education for his work in administering the program in my State.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEBORAH FLATEMAN AND VERMONT FOOD BANK

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes to congratulate and thank Vermont Foodbank and its Chief Executive Officer, Deborah Flateman, for their inspired tenacity and expertise in the fight against hunger in Vermont. Access to nutritional food is a fundamental right for all people and the Vermont Foodbank's philosophy seeks to eradicate the persistence of hunger by constructing a system that assures every person—not just the poor—equal access to quality food. According to the Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity, food shelf caseloads have increased 69 percent over the past 10 years. Vermont Foodbank's contribution to the cause has more than quadrupled over the past 6 years, from 1.5 million pounds of food distributed in 1997 to more than 7 million in 2003.

As its leader, Deborah Flateman has devoted her energy and expertise to placing the Vermont Foodbank on the

fast track towards ending hunger. From successfully raising \$2.1 million and building a state of the art facility, to hiring quality personnel, to partnering with the Vermont state government to create and implement an innovative Community Kitchen, Ms. Flateman has raised the standards of best practice. The Vermont Foodbank is a lively organization with a strong ethical base and a stellar reputation.

Deborah Flateman's personal achievements illustrate her vested commitment to ending hunger. In addition to exhibiting leadership on the local and State levels, Ms. Flateman has occupied posts on the national and international levels for America's Second Harvest, including work on an international conference planning committee and the Public Policy Task Force. In the year 2000, Ms. Flateman personally solicited \$800,000 for new facilities to accommodate the Foodbank's growing operation. She has also been an integral member of the Eastern Region Affiliates Association of America's Second Harvest, and was elected chairperson in 2002. Recently, Ms. Flateman accepted the Model Program Hunger's Hope Award from America's Second Harvest on behalf of the Vermont Foodbank.

With Deborah Flateman at the helm, the Vermont Foodbank has done a first rate job in addressing hunger in the Green Mountain State. The Vermont Foodbank has made exceptional progress in a short time, and its successes mark victory after victory in the fight against hunger.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GEN- ERAL JOHN M. LEMOYNE, U.S. ARMY, ON HIS RETIREMENT

• Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a great patriot, soldier and fellow Floridian, LTG John M. LeMoyné. General LeMoyné is retiring after a distinguished 35-year career in the United States Army.

John LeMoyné entered military service in 1968 after graduating from the University of Florida, in Gainesville, FL. He was commissioned through ROTC as a second lieutenant in the Infantry and has served with distinction for over three decades in peace and during two wars. Most notable was his final assignment as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G-1. He was personally selected by the Army's senior leadership to serve as its head personnel officer and to take control of an organization which had sustained substantial casualties during the September 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon. His calm hand, steady leadership and personal touch were instrumental in guiding the organization through a period of mourning and reconstitution, while continuing to support the Army's many personnel needs. Over the past 2 years, during a period of unprecedented global action, with Operations Enduring Freedom and

Iraqi Freedom, General LeMoyné ensured that the Army's personnel challenges were met.

Throughout his career, General LeMoyné has distinguished himself in numerous command and staff positions both overseas and in the United States. In Vietnam, he commanded an infantry company, where he was recognized for his heroism and received a Purple Heart. In Europe, his assignments included command of the 3rd Battalion, 30th Infantry, 3rd Infantry Division; Operations Officer and later Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army. General LeMoyné's stateside assignments included serving as the Commander, 1st Brigade, 24th Infantry Division and Commanding General, U.S. Army Infantry Center, Fort Benning, GA. While in command of the 1st Brigade during Operation Desert Storm, General LeMoyné's unit led the famous "Hail Mary" into the Iraqi Army's rear which contributed to the quick end of hostilities and the defeat of the Iraqi Army in Kuwait.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking General LeMoyné for the leadership he has provided, for the care and concern he has demonstrated for our soldiers and their families and for his dedicated and honorable service to our Nation and its Army. As he returns to Gainesville, we wish him, his wife Marion and family Godspeed and all the best in the future. ●

RAJESH (RAJ) SOIN 2003 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to Mr. Raj Soin of Beavercreek, OH as a 2003 Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipient.

The prestigious Ellis Island Medal of Honor award is presented annually to "remarkable American who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives," and "who have distinguished themselves as citizens of the United States, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage."

Mr. Soin was born in New Delhi, India in 1947 and graduated from Delhi University in 1969 with a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering. After graduation, he came to the United States with barely enough money to make his way to Bradley University, where he earned a Master of Science degree in Industrial Engineering in 1971, while working as a research assistant. Mr. Soin continued his postgraduate studies in business and finance, at Bradley University, Illinois State University, and the advanced management programs at Harvard University and The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Raj Soin and his wife, Indu, became proud citizens of the United States in 1978.

In 1984, Raj Soin created his company, Modern Technologies Corpora-

tion, MTC, on a dream. MTC was founded with the idea of proving engineering and technical services to the Department of Defense, but quickly became an incubator that has spawned numerous businesses in a variety of industries. From its inception, MTC has grown at an exceptional rate and was hailed as one of the fastest growing companies in the United States by Inc. magazine for 4 consecutive years. In June 2002, MTC Technologies was listed on NASDAQ. Today the company has sales in excess of \$140 million and employs over 1100 people in 25 cities and 18 States.

With the success of his company, Modern Technologies Corporation, he could have chosen to channel his energies solely toward his business. Instead, he believes in contributing to the community that has given him so much. And the one area in which Mr. Raj Soin has made a particular difference has been in the area which has had such an enormous impact on his own life—education.

When I was Governor of Ohio, one of the goals that I set for my administration was to celebrate the cultural diversity of our State by seeking out individuals from non-traditional ethnic groups and giving them an opportunity to serve.

I was so impressed by Raj's devotion to education, that as Governor, I appointed him to Wright State University's Board of Trustees in 1993. One of the main reasons that I asked Raj to serve on the Board of Trustees was that he constantly mentioned the fact that we needed to do a better job in higher education, that we needed to do a better job in secondary and primary education.

He has served with great distinction and is held in the highest regard by his colleagues. More important is the fact that through his work on behalf of Wright State University, Raj has directly touched the lives of so many. Raj Soin has truly made a difference on behalf of the citizens of Dayton, the State of Ohio and thousands of Wright State University graduates.

Because of his commitment to higher education and in honor of his accomplishments and support of the University, in 2000, the business college at Wright State was renamed the Raj Soin College of Business and I was delighted to be on campus in Dayton, OH, for the dedication ceremony.

Raj's determination, his hard work and his selflessness are traits that all of us should strive to emulate, not only in business, but in life, because there are rewards that are greater than money—particularly, the ability to make a difference in the lives of one's fellow man.

For example, Raj is the founding trustee and first president of the Ohio-India project. Two of the local projects of the Ohio-India Project are the Ghandi House, a transitional house for women in need and the Annual Day of Caring, which started as a local event

and is now conducted in several states with expectations of becoming a national program.

Additionally, as Governor, we led a trade mission to India in April of 1996, and I had the chance to see Raj Soin in action when his company, Modern Technologies Corporation and CMC Limited announced their joint agreement to, among other things, greatly expand India's access to the Internet.

Mr. Soin's company, MTC Technologies also supports many community projects through the MTC Foundation. MTC not only provides part of the funding for the Foundation, but permits and encourages employers to spend company time to help with the Foundation's work.

Raj Soin serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Victoria Theatre Association, and on the Board of Directors of the Kettering Medical Center Network. He is a past member of the Board of Trustees of Wright State University, the Advisory Board of KeyBank, and Dayton District. He is a founding trustee and past president of Asian Indian American Business Group. He has also served as a member of the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees; member of the Ohio Business Roundtable; Co-Chair of the Center for Information Technology in Dayton; member of the Board of Dayton Council on World Affairs; and member of the Board of the Dayton Air and Trade Show.

Mr. Soin has received many awards, including: The National Conference of Christians and Jews Humanitarians Award, Ernst & Young's Master Entrepreneur, and Beavercreek Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year.

Even with all the business success he has enjoyed and all the charitable and philanthropic acts that he has undertaken, perhaps what best exemplifies Raj Soin is the fact that he is a loving husband, devoted father and caring son. I have been to Raj and Indu's home and I have been with them at other occasions and observed the genuine love and admiration they have for each other and their pride in their two sons.

Raj understands, as so many Asian Indians do, that the family is the backbone of our society.

I remember also on our business mission having the pleasure of meeting Raj Soin's father. You could not help but see how proud he was of Raj. And that love and respect was mutual; for Raj is the main benefactor for the Sukh Dev Raj Soin Hospital which is being built in memory of his father in India.

Raj has been a role model in every sense: in terms of his family, in terms of his contributions to his "extended family" in the community, and in terms of his success in business.

Raj Soin is indeed a remarkable American of the highest integrity in both his personal and professional life.